

### **Watershed Management:**

**CALFED Recommended Level of Funding:** \$2,798,000  
**Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998:** \$2,253,000  
**Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998:** \$60,816

- 1) **Program Title:** Watershed Restoration Planning and Implementation Program  
Status of the Proposal Solicitation Package of May 8, 1998 (PSP)

**CALFED Recommended Level of Funding:** \$2,095,000  
**Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998:** \$1,550,000  
**Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998:** \$0

**Funding provided to:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Project Description:** A program to promote locally-led efforts to develop comprehensive restoration plans for key tributaries of the Central Valley and Bay-Delta Watershed. This program will fund the development and implementation of restoration projects or plans by new or existing watershed groups. To promote watershed stewardship throughout the ecosystem and to support an increased understanding of the linkages with the upper watershed, geographic scope of the watershed program will include the upper watershed and the local watersheds below the Delta. Efforts under this program will be coordinated through the CALFED Watershed Management Program. The following table of projects are included within the Watershed Restoration Planning and Implementation Program.

Expected Project Completion Date: September 30, 2002

### **First Quarter Accomplishments:**

Began agreement negotiations with fourteen project proponents as follows<sup>1</sup> -

<b>Project</b>	<b>Recommended Funding Level</b>	<b>Funding Recipient (Project proponent)</b>
Petaluma River Watershed Restoration Program	\$162,000	Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District
Cottonwood Creek Watershed Group Formation	119,000	Cottonwood Creek Watershed Group
Battle Creek Watershed	107,000	Battle Creek Watershed

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<sup>1</sup> Upon completion of the agreement negotiations, each project will be listed in the Quarterly Report with specific project description, completion data, and accomplishments.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Recommended Funding Level</b>	<b>Funding Recipient (Project proponent)</b>
Stewardship		Conservancy
Local Watershed Stewardship: Steelhead Trout Plan	38,000	Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed
Cold Water Fisheries and Water Quality Element	147,000	City of San Jose Services Department
Merced River Corridor Restoration Plan	220,000	Stillwater Sciences & Merced County Planning & Community Development Department
South Yuba River Coordinated Watershed Management Plan	193,000	California Department of Parks and Recreation
Watershed Restoration Strategy for the Yolo Bypass	180,000	Yolo Basin Foundation, Inc.
Proposal to Develop Local Watershed Stewardship Plan for the Lower Mokelumne River	118,000	San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District
Union School Slough Watershed Improvement Program	449,000	National Audubon Society, California Chapter
American River Integrated Watershed Stewardship Strategy	162,000	Placer County Resource Conservation District

<b>Project</b>	<b>Recommended Funding Level</b>	<b>Funding Recipient (Project proponent)</b>
Sulphur Creek Coordinated Resource Management Planning Group	20,000	Sacramento Watersheds Action Group
Lower Putah Creek Watershed Stewardship Program	76,000	Solano County Department of Environmental Management
Alhambra Creek Watershed CRMP Program	104,000	Contra Costa Resource Conservation District
<b>TOTAL PENDING AGREEMENT<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>\$2,095,000</b>	

2) **Project Title:** Improvement/Sediment Stabilization on Deer, Mill and Antelope Creeks (Lassen National Forest)      CALFED Recommended Level of Funding:

\$371,000

Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998:      \$371,000

Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998:      \$50,342

**Funding provided to:** U.S. Forest Service

**Project Description:** Program to reduce generation of fine sediment from upland, riparian, and road-related sources in three watersheds utilized by spring run salmon and steelhead in Lassen National Forest (LNF). Stabilization measures would be implemented in known problem areas, and inventory, design, and planning measures pursued for remaining road-related problems. Includes identification of willing sellers for potential land exchange related to acquisition of riparian areas.

Expected Project Completion Date: December 31, 2000

**First Quarter Accomplishments:**

Task 1 is the implementation of erosion control measures at known sites. USFS is in the design phase of the site survey. The NEPA process and ESA consultation has delivered a completed Decision Memo, the specialists supporting documents are complete, public scoping is complete with supportive comments from all, consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office is ongoing, and USFS is continuing consultations with the National

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<sup>2</sup> A request for \$545,000 from the Technical Review/Quality Control Program and \$400,000 from FY >99 was made by the Policy Group on December 4, 1998. Approval of the request was provided by the Secretary's office on January 6, 1999.

Marine Fisheries Service for all sites. Contract preparation is expected to be complete by the Spring of 1999. One half mile of road obliteration is completed in the Antelope Creek watershed (coordinated with the CALFED engineer to ensure compliance with CALFED restoration objectives). Work has started on Best Management Practices (BMP) concurrent monitoring and USFS expects to complete the process immediately following implementation. Long term BMP monitoring elements have been developed for each of the restoration sites. Non-routine Biological Assessment tiering forms containing monitoring elements have been completed.

The watershed restoration planning component of the project had the CALFED engineer completing field identification of over 250 potential restoration sites in the Deer, Mill, and Antelope Creek watersheds. Descriptions of each site have been completed, and a GIS layer of the sites has been developed. Work continues on building oracle database to interface with site GIS layer. USFS conducted three meetings with Collins Pine Corporation on joint restoration projects, specifically a low water crossing removal on Deer Creek, and the obliteration of two road segments, one along Deer Creek, and one along Alder Creek, a tributary to Deer Creek. Coordinating a joint restoration proposal with the Butte Creek Conservancy to restore riparian function to Colby Meadows.

3) **Project Title:** Butte Creek Watershed Restoration Implementation

CALFED Recommended Level of Funding: \$294,000

Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998: \$294,000

Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998: \$10,474

**Funding provided to:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Project Description:** Watershed planning, outreach, and restoration project to be implemented by the Butte Creek Watershed Conservancy. This project will include watershed planning, an education program, an evaluation of the geomorphology of an important segment of Butte Creek, and a road survey in the watershed to identify future erosion control needs. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with California State University, Chico and the Butte Creek Watershed Conservancy to develop this program.

Expected Project Completion Date: September 30, 1999

**First Quarter Accomplishments:**

A fully executed agreement for the Butte Creek Watershed Coordinator Assistant is nearing completion of negotiations. Cooperative agreements for the education project, road survey, and geomorphology analysis are being negotiated with California State University, Chico.

4) **Project Title:** Inventory of Forest Road Systems at Cat Creek Watershed

CALFED Recommended Level of Funding: \$38,000

Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998: \$38,000

Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998: \$0

**Funding provided to:** U.S. Forest Service

**Project Description:** An interdisciplinary team will develop a process for reviewing the forest road system within the Cat Creek watershed. The objective is to provide decision makers with recommendations about which roads to repair, relocate, gate, or obliterate. The

process developed by this team would be used to review the entire forest road system within the Cosumnes River Basin. Roads are the principle cause of accelerated erosion in forests in the western United States; this project will ultimately improve riparian resources and aquatic habitat by removing sources of sedimentation.

Expected Project Completion Date: September 30, 1999

**First Quarter Accomplishments:**

As reflected in the Fourth Quarter Report of FY 1998, USFS has postponed further progress on this project pending completion of the GIS road layer project is complete. USFS still anticipates no extension of the completion date.